

CONFIDENTIAL.]

[No. 18 of 1887.

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 30th April 1887.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
ASSAMESE.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Assam Vilásini" ...	Sibsagar	.....
2	"Assam News" ...	Ditto	450	
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
3	"Ahammadí" ...	Tangail, Mymensingh..	.....
4	"Kasipore Nibási" ...	Kasipore, Burrisal	.....
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
5	"Ave Maria" ...	Calcutta	.....
6	"Purva Darpan" ...	Chittagong	700	
7	"Silchar" ...	Silchar, Assam	.....	18th April 1887.
<i>Weekly.</i>				
8	"Ananda Bazar Patriká" ...	Calcutta	700	
9	"Arya Darpan" ...	Ditto	102	22nd ditto.
10	"Arya Pratibhá" ...	Halishahar	.....
11	"Bangabási" ...	Calcutta	20,000	23rd ditto.
12	"Bháratbási" ...	Ditto	3,000	16th ditto.
13	"Bhárat Mihir" ...	Ditto	2,500	
14	"Burdwán Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan	302	19th ditto.
15	"Cháruvartá" ...	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	18th ditto.
16	"Dacca Prakásh" ...	Dacca	450	24th ditto.
17	"Dhumaketu" ...	Chandernagore	...	22nd ditto.
18	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly	825	22nd ditto.
19	"Garib" ...	Dacca	.....	26th ditto.
20	"Grambási" ...	Uluberia	.....
21	"Hindu Ranjiká" ...	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	200	
22	"Murshidábád Patriká" ...	Berhampore	508	
23	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi" ...	Ditto	.....
24	"Nava Medini" ...	Midnapore	.....
25	"Navavibhákar Sádharani" ...	Calcutta	1,000	25th ditto.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI—concluded.				
<i>Weekly—concluded.</i>				
26	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	450	16th April 1887.
27	"Prajā Bandhu"	Chandernagore ...	995	
28	"Pratikār"	Berhampore ...	600	22nd ditto.
29	"Pūrva Bangabāsi"	Noakhollv ...	...
30	"Rungpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kakiniā, Rungpore ...	205	21st ditto.
31	"Sahachar"	Calcutta ...	500	20th ditto.
32	"Samaya"	Ditto ...	2,350	22nd ditto.
33	"Sanjivani"	Ditto ...	4,000	23rd ditto.
34	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong ...	800	
35	"Sāraswat Patra"	Dacca ...	400	
36	"Som Prakāsh"	Changripottā, 24-Perghs. ...	1,000	25th ditto.
37	"Srimanta Saudagār"	Calcutta ...	...	23rd ditto.
38	"Sulabha Samāchār and Kusadaha"	Ditto ...	3,000	22nd ditto.
39	"Surabhi and Patākā"	Ditto ...	700	21st ditto.
<i>Daily.</i>				
40	"Dainik"	Calcutta ...	7,000	24th to 28th April 1887.
41	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Ditto ...	200	20th, 22nd to 28th ditto.
42	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto ...	300	22nd to 27th ditto.
43	"Samachār Chandrikā"	Ditto ...	625	19th, 26th, & 27th ditto.
44	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Ditto ...	500	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
45	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca ...	.....	25th April 1887.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
46	"Kshatriya Pratika"	Patna ...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
47	"Aryāvarta"	Calcutta ...	.....
48	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore ...	.....
49	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	1,500	
50	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto ...	500	
51	"Uchit Baktā"	Ditto ...	4,500	
52	"Hindī Samāchār"	Bhagulpore ...	1,000	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
53	"Jām-Jahān-numā"	Calcutta ...	250	
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
54	"Gauhur"	Calcutta ...	196	
55	"Sharaf-ul-Akhbar"	Benar ...	150	
56	"Al Punch"	Bankipore ...	.....
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
57	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta ...	340	
<i>Daily.</i>				
58	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta ...	212	
URIA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
59	"Taraka and Subhavartā"	Cuttack ...	.....
60	"Pradip"	Ditto ...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
61	"Utkal Dīpikā"	Cuttack ...	200	9th April 1887.
62	"Balasore Samvad Vāhikā"	Balasore ...	205	7th ditto.
63	"Sanskārak"	Cuttack ...	200	14th ditto.
64	"Navasamvād"	Ditto ...	.....	14th ditto.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

The *Sahachar*, of the 20th April, says that the Government of India ought not to interfere in the affairs of Afghanistan. Whoever the party may be

SAHACHAR,
April 20th, 1887.

Troubles in Afghanistan.

that interferes it is sure to incur the distrust of the Afghan people. If the Government of India interferes, it will incur that distrust, and it will therefore become necessary for it in order to ensure its own safety to maintain an army of 60,000 men in Afghanistan. But whence is the money for maintaining so large an army to come from? Certainly not from India. India is too poor to be able to bear the burden of such an expenditure. To interfere in the internal affairs of a State is almost tantamount to annexing it; and nothing could be a graver error for the Government of India to make, and no misfortune could be heavier for the people of India to bear than the annexation of Afghanistan. If Afghanistan is annexed, the entire revenue of India will be absorbed by military expenditure. Such annexation will also have the effect of strengthening Russia; for Russia will then be spared the trouble of a hazardous march to the banks of the Indus.

The two nations contending for the sovereignty of India will then fight their battles on the banks of the Oxus. For England, the destruction of a single army will mean utter annihilation of her power in India. But Russia may lose battle after battle without suffering the least loss of military reputation. Government has committed a grave mistake by pushing the frontier of India beyond the Indus and constructing railways beyond the limits of India. The railway lines which are being constructed for the purpose of carrying British troops into Afghanistan may, in the event of a contest with Russia, fall into Russian hands just as the French railways during the Franco-Russian war fell into German hands. The fact is that the advantages of a railway line outside of India are very doubtful. Immense sums are being spent in the settlement of the boundary line of the Ameer's dominions in order to prevent Russian dominions in Asia from touching India. But the interference of Government in the present troubles in Afghanistan will have the effect of drawing it into the very danger which it has been endeavouring for years to avert.

2. The *Som Prakāsh*, of the 25th April, referring to the present of an elephant, with trappings, made by the Government of India to the Shah of Persia, says that the maintenance of peace is no doubt the object which the Government has proposed to itself in making this present. In justice, therefore, the cost of the present ought to be borne by both England and India and not by India alone.

SOM PRAKASH,
April 25th, 1887.

The Government of India and the Shah of Persia.

II—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

3. The *Surabhi and Patākā*, of the 21st April, praises the conduct of the Police Inspector, Iswara Baboo, in connection with the affray at Tarkeswar between the Police and the *sannyasis* on the occasion of the celebration of the Chaitra Sankranti mela. But for the coolness and judgment displayed by Iswara Baboo on that occasion, the disturbance would have been attended with loss of life and other serious consequences.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
April 21st, 1887.

The Inspector of the Tarkeswar Police.

4. The Borai correspondent of the *Samaya*, of the 22nd April, says that a resort of opium-smokers belonging to the *serai* called Baratelemon, in the Serampore sub-division, has become a nest of bud-

SAMAYA,
April 22nd, 1887.

Budmashes in the Serampore sub-division.

mashes, who have of late become the pest of the surrounding villages. The most notorious among the bubmashes are Dera, a Mahomedan, Mahes Bagdi and Nidhe, a kahar. The Magistrate of Serampore is requested to punish them.

(b)— *Working of the Courts.*

CHÁRUVÁRTA,
April 18th, 1887.

5. The *Cháruvártá*, of the 18th April, hears that the Deputy Magistrate of Manikgunge is rather indifferent in the matter of punishing wicked people. The number of budmashes is consequently on the increase there.

SURABHI & PATÁKÁ,
April 21st, 1887.

6. The *Surabhi and Patáká*, of the 21st April, does not approve of the proposal to settle out of court the case brought against the Municipal Commissioners of Dacca for the expenditure of Rs. 300 made out of the municipal funds by the municipality for the reception of Sir Rivers Thompson. As the case involves a question of principle or municipal law, it ought to be decided by a Court of Justice.

(c)— *Jails.*

SAHACHAR,
April 20th, 1887.

7. The *Sahachar*, of the 20th April, says that Sir Rivers Thompson has done well by admitting non-official visitors into jails. The inspection of jails by non-official gentlemen will have the effect of putting down in a large measure the oppressions which are secretly practised upon prisoners by the jail officers, and of raising those officers in the confidence of the public.

DAINIK,
April 26th, 1887.

8. The *Dainik*, of the 26th April, approves of Dr. Lethbridge's proposal to keep old and hardened offenders apart from new or young offenders. The present practice of letting offenders of all classes mix with each other tells injuriously on the character of new offenders. The proposal should recommend itself to Sir Steuart Bayley. But if old and hardened offenders are kept apart, they should not be subjected to unusually severe treatment. Considering the character of these offenders, which bears greater resemblance to the character of wild beasts than to the character of man, it is of the utmost importance that their jailors should be men of an honest and humane disposition. The classification of offenders will also be a matter of difficulty. If the work of classification is entrusted to the jail officers, it is very probable that new offenders will often get mixed with old offenders. Dr. Lethbridge's proposal is no doubt good. But Sir Steuart Bayley will have to exercise great caution and judgment in giving effect to it.

DAINIK,
April 27th, 1887.

9. The *Dainik*, of the 27th April, says that, considering the large number of offences which are committed in the jails of Bengal against the smoking regulations in spite of their rigour and severity, it is advisable to slightly relax those regulations. It is not true that people are restrained from the commission of crime by the thought that they would not be allowed to smoke in jail. It appears from the report of the Inspector-General of Jails that offences against jail discipline are more numerous in Bengal than in the other Indian provinces. The Inspector-General would account for this by saying that offences of this description are more accurately registered in Bengal than elsewhere; but this explanation is not perfectly satisfactory. It is to be hoped that Sir Steuart Bayley will institute a careful enquiry into this matter. The writer is glad that Dr. Lethbridge

has declared himself against this practice of putting prisoners in jails under irons. The occasional escape of prisoners from jails is due to the negligence of jail warders.

(d).—*Education.*

10. The *Paridarshak*, of the 16th April, says that want of accommodation is being sadly felt for the girls' school at Sylhet. As the local Normal School has

Education in Sylhet.

been abolished, the necessity of maintaining the school connected with it has also ceased to exist. The school connected with the Normal School should be therefore abolished, and the girls' school accommodated in its rooms. The writer hopes that the headmaster of the zillah school will consider this proposal. The Karimganj Municipality intends to create two medical scholarships of Rs. 10 each. The proposal is pending the sanction of the Commissioner. A scholarship, worth Rs. 15 per month, tenable for five years, after passing the Entrance examination, has also been included in the Municipal Budget at the instance of Baboo Paricharan Dass, Vice-Chairman of the Municipality. It is to be hoped that the Commissioner will sanction the expenditure.

PARIDARSHAK,
April 16th, 1887.

11. The same paper publishes a letter complaining of the stiffness and inconveniently large number of the questions set at the recent vernacular examinations in the Assam division.

PARIDARSHAK.

12. The *Cháruvartá*, of the 18th April, says that an application to raise the status of the school at Putea to that of a Middle English School has been forwarded to the Inspector of Schools, Eastern Bengal Circle. The Inspector will earn the gratitude of the people if he sanctions a monthly grant of Rs. 15 in aid of the school. In last June a Circle School was opened at Motkhola near Putea. Its condition is not, however, satisfactory. It is not desirable to maintain a pundit on Rs. 8 a month for the benefit of the eight or nine boys attending the school. This Circle School should be transferred to some place where it would be really wanted.

CHARUVARTA,
April 18th, 1887.

13. The *Silchar*, of the 18th April, says that Baboo Girish Chandra, Deputy Inspector of Schools, Cachar, is responsible for the decrease in the number of schools in the district. The Deputy Inspector has a knack of quarrelling with the school authorities, and then of abolishing the schools in consequence of these quarrels. The abolition of the Barkhala high primary school and of the Joynagar model school is due to this cause. The same cause has also greatly injured the school at Banskandi. The candidates who go up for the Entrance examination from the Assam Division often get very low marks in Sanskrit. This is due to the fact that the Sanskrit teachers in the schools of Assam are recruited from the *tohs*. It is therefore necessary to recruit Sanskrit teachers for the Assam schools from among the students of the Calcutta Sanskrit College, and the present staff of pundits should be pensioned off or otherwise got rid of. But the Inspector is indifferent in the matter.

SILCHAR,
April 18th, 1887.

14. The same paper says that the subject proposed for essay writing at the recent minor scholarship examination in Cachar was unusually hard. The subject was "the comparative merits of physical and moral courage." It may be fairly doubted whether such a subject would not be difficult even for Entrance examination candidates.

SILCHAR.

15. The *Sahachar*, of the 20th April, says that the abolition of the agricultural scholarships may have been in accordance with the recommendations of the

SAHACHAR,
April 20th, 1887.

Sir Alfred Croft and the abolition of agricultural scholarships.

Finance Commission, but Sir A. Croft was not justified in giving his consent to it. He should rather have opposed it. The plea that the abolition was the result of financial distress is simply inexcusable and inadmissible in the face of such facts as the existence of institutions like the Cooper's Hill College and the continuance of the annual exodus of the different Governments to the hills. This abolition indicates indifference on the part of Government to the interests of the vast agricultural population of this country. It also implies grave injustice to Bengalis in the face of an immense annual expenditure of money in the education of Europeans and Eurasians who contribute little or nothing to the general revenues of the country and of the expenditure of 17 lakhs of public money every year in the maintenance of Christian clergymen. It is to be hoped that the Governor-General will disallow the action of Sir A. Croft in this matter, and that the Director himself will see his mistake and redress the wrong he has done.

SARACHAR,
April 20th, 1887.

16. The same paper is of opinion that the Jubilee money should be devoted to the establishment of agricultural schools all over the country. In view of the growing competition of America, the necessity for improving Indian agriculture is increasing. As the art of the carpenter and of the smith will be required for improving agricultural implements, schools for giving instruction in those arts should be established in connection with the agricultural schools. Steps should also be taken to improve the agricultural products of the country. The cultivators of the soil should be taught to use canal water for the purpose of irrigating their fields as well as to sink wells for the same purpose.

PRATIKAR,
April 22nd, 1887.

17. The *Pratikár*, of the 22nd April, complains of the way in which text-books for minor and middle vernacular scholarship examinations. middle vernacular scholarship examinations. The inclusion of Science Primers among the text-books for these examinations is objectionable. It is also wrong to make the boys of middle schools to go through those parts of arithmetic which on account of their difficulty are excluded even from the Entrance course. The number of books again required to be read for the minor and middle examinations is greater than those prescribed for the Entrance examination. In Indian history three different text-books by three different writers have been appointed. Has this been done with the view of benefiting those authors? Again, Mr. R. C. Dutt's "History of India" has been this year superseded by Baboo Tarini Charan's book. But many boys purchased Mr. Dutt's book last year, and this change will compel them to purchase another book this year. Again, if sanitary science is to be taught, it will be enough if it is taught from Baboo Radhika Prasanna Mukharji's *Swásthya Rakshá*. But no; Dr. Cunningham's Sanitary Primer must be also read!

SANJIVANI,
April 23rd, 1887.

18. The *Sanjivani*, of the 23rd April, is glad that Dr. P. K. Ray has been appointed Registrar of the Calcutta University.

SANJIVANI.

19. A correspondent of the same paper, complains of irregularities in connection with the University examination held at Bhagulpore. The distribution of question papers was almost every day delayed several minutes; and one day the delay amounted to nearly an hour. Extra time was indeed allowed to the candidates to make up for the delay in the distribution of the question papers. But boys already overworked and kept so long without food could not be expected to make the best use of such extra time. On the essay and translation day the distribution of

question papers was so much delayed that many of the candidates were on the point of leaving the examination hall.

20. The Shillong correspondent of the *Bangabási*, of the 23rd April, says that it is only the headmaster

The Shillong Government school.

of the Shillong Government school who

holds a permanent appointment there. The Managing Committee of the school are wrong in dismissing headmasters whenever any difference of opinion arises between them. If the Committee go on doing so, no gentleman will in future accept the headmastership of the school, and the school will eventually cease to exist. The present condition of the school is deplorable. The number of boys has come down to 38. The condition of the local missionary school is better. One school is enough for the school-going boys of Shillong. It is not known why in these days of retrenchment the school is maintained for the benefit of only 20 or 25 boys at a cost of Rs. 1,300 or Rs. 1,400 per annum.

21. The *Navavibhakar Sádharani*, of the 25th April, says that the Calcutta Presidency College, instead of being

The Presidency College.

abolished, ought to be raised to a status so

high and the education imparted in it ought to be such as will enable its students to become the equals of Oxford and Cambridge graduates and to teach M.A. classes in the Indian Colleges. Now that there is no want of ordinary Colleges in Calcutta, the Presidency College may without any inconvenience, be converted into an institution for training Professors. The standard of education imparted in it should be such that students may come to complete their education in it after studying in the other colleges. The country will derive great benefit from this arrangement. Classes should also be opened in it for training candidates for the Statutory Civil Service Examination and other competitive examinations for the public service. There should also be a class in it for training men for the editorial profession.

BANGABASI,
April 23rd, 1887.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
April 25th, 1887.

22. The same paper is of opinion that the importance of the Sanskrit Titles Examination is due solely to the personality of Pundit Mohesh Chundra

The Sanskrit Titles Examination.

Nayaratna. The examination in poetry at that Examination is becoming more and more difficult. All those who are found capable of understanding the Sanskrit language and appreciating poetical beauty should be passed. Candidates should not be made to defer the study of more important subjects like logic and the Hindu Law by being compelled to devote too much time to the study of poetry on account of the difficulty of the examination in that subject. Pundit Mohesh Chandra Nayaratna should immediately address himself to the question of changing the character of the examination in poetry.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI.

23. The *Dainik* of the 26th April, says that three errors have been discovered in the Mathematics paper set at the last F.A. Examination of the Calcutta University. The marks attached to the ques-

The Calcutta University examinations.

tions containing the errors should be transferred to the other questions. The Senate should also provide against such negligence on the part of examiners.

DAINIK,
April 26th, 1887.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

24. The *Bhāratbāsi*, of the 16th April, asks why the irregularities recently brought to light in the License Department of the Calcutta Municipality have

The Calcutta Municipality.

been hushed up. The rate-payers should not any longer be kept in the dark. Before availing himself of his leave, Sir Henry Harrison ought to

BHARATBASI,
April 16th, 1887.

publish the facts connected with this affair. If he does so, he will please the public and the rate-payers alike.

SAHACHAR,
April 20th, 1887.

25. The *Sahachar*, of the 20th April, referring to the proposal relating to the supply of filtered water in the Presidency Jail when waterpipes are laid in the Suburbs, says that Government ought to pay for the water which may be taken for the jail.

**SULABHA SAMACHAR
& KUSHADHA,**
April 22nd, 1887.

26. The *Sulabha Samachar and Kushadha* of the 22nd April, approves of Mr. Cotton's appointment to the Chairmanship of the Calcutta Municipality. His Honour deserves thanks for making this appointment. It is to be hoped that the new Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality will set the Municipal office in order, and put an end to the dilatory style in which work is done in the Municipal office.

DAINIK,
April 24th, 1887.

27. The *Dainik*, of the 24th April, is sorry that Dr. Mohendra Lall Sirkar and Baboo Joges Chandra Dutt, Commissioners for Ward No. 11, Calcutta, are indifferent to the improvement of their ward. Though by duty bound to inspect every part of their ward, the gentlemen in question never examine the condition of Serpentine Lane. The portion of the lane, which is inhabited by respectable native gentlemen, is never watered even in the hot season; but the municipality takes care to water the European portion of it. There are besides uncovered drain pits in the lane in question, which emit very offensive smells, and therefore require looking after.

DACCA GAZETTE,
April 25th, 1887.

28. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 25th April, is glad to find Mr. Cotton appointed as Chairman of the Calcutta Municipality. This is the first good act in the administration of Sir Steuart Bayley. If he continues in this way to be guided by public opinion, his administration will be a success.

(g)—*Railways and communications including canals and irrigation.*

CHARU VARTA,
April 18th, 1887.

29. The *Charuvarta*, of the 18th April, complains that no shady trees have been planted for the convenience of passengers on the side of the wide road which was constructed some time ago from Sivalaya to Manikgunge. The bridge between Mahadebpore and Sribari on the same road has given way, and no attempt has been made up to this time to reconstruct it. During the rainy season the want of a bridge will be sorely felt. What are the members of the Local Board doing?

CHARU VARTA.

30. The same paper says that many men and cattle cross the Padma between Archia and Goalundo. The number of boats kept at the ferry is insufficient for the purpose. It is dangerous to cross in small boats at the confluence of the Padma and the Jamuna. The Goalundo and Archia ferry is much more important than the ferry between Furreedpore and Natakhal where steamers are used. It is not easy to understand why there is no steamer service at Archia. The Eastern Bengal State Railway authorities ought to look to the matter.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
April 19th, 1887.

31. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 19th April, says that the proposed tramway line from Chakdighi to Memari should run on to Tarkesvar; and if it runs on to Tarkesvar, it should touch Dasghara on its way. Dasghara is a famous place of pilgrimage, and the proposed line, if it passes by that place, would be sure to secure a large number of passengers. The advantage of the line being extended to Tarkesvar will be that the people of the districts of Burdwan,

Bankura, &c., will travel from Memari to Tarkesvar by tram instead of by rail, as they now do.

32. The *Sulabha Samáchar and Kushadaha*, of the 22nd April, says that the junction of the Eastern Bengal Railway with the East Indian by the new bridge over the Hooghly has increased the number of passengers at the Naihati station. It therefore behoves the authorities to construct a recreation room at that station for the use of respectable females.

SULABHA SAMACHAR
& KUSHADHA,
April 22nd, 1887.

A recreation room at the Naihati Railway Station.

33. The *Bangabási*, of the 23rd April, says that the arguments employed by English merchants to induce the Government of India to undertake the extension of railways in this country are—

BANGABASI,
April 23rd, 1887.

Extension of railways in India.

- (1) That railways will be very serviceable in times of war; but for war purposes the lines which have been already opened will be sufficient, and no new lines are necessary.
- (2) That the extension of railways will increase the area of cultivated land, and Government revenue will consequently increase. But it is a well-known fact that places where cultivation was not in an advanced condition before they were traversed by railways have received no agricultural impetus since the passing of railway lines through them.

It is also a well-known fact that the land revenue, which amounted to 22 crores before the Sepoy Mutiny, when only a few miles of railway existed in this country, remains the same 22 crores now when many thousand miles of railway are at work. English merchants also argue that the people of India will greatly benefit by the extension of railways. They say, for instance, that the extension of railways will remove famine; but famine is principally owing to the large export of food-grains from this country; and as railways only facilitate that export, it is clear that extended railways will simply increase the chances of famine. They also say that Indian cultivators are a half-starved people, and that extended railways will increase their happiness. This means—if it means anything—that more railways will enable Indian cultivators to raise more produce. But it is not true that where railroads do not exist, they are content with raising a smaller crop than they could. They say that where railways do not exist, the ripe harvest is not cut and stored, and is therefore destroyed in the fields. This is a simply ludicrous statement. The fact is that where there are no railways, people eat full meals, and, where railroads do exist and take away food-grains for export, they have to remain satisfied with very insufficient food. English merchants say that with more railways there will be a more even distribution of population in this country. But Behar is a standing refutation of this argument. For Behar is traversed by railways, and yet the density of its population remains undiminished. The fact is that density of population would be of little consequence if there were no export of food-grains.

It may be admitted, as English merchants argue, that the construction of railroads will increase the wages of the labouring population; but increase of wages does not always mean increase of comfort. It often means increase of expenditure. All increase of the price of articles of food only increases the severity of the struggle for existence.

English merchants would improve Indian art by extending railways. It is needless to say, however, that Indian art will not prosper so long as British art is not annihilated.

Extension of railways will, it is argued, reduce the price of salt; but men do not subsist only on salt. The fact is that extension of railways will only increase the sale of British goods in this country.

(h)—General.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI
April 19th, 1887.

34. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 19th April, praises Mr. Oldham, Magistrate of Burdwan, and Baboo Radhakant Banerjee, Sub-divisional Officer of Culna, with which they are collecting subscriptions for the relief of the distress caused by the recent fire at Culna. Mr. Oldham, though he has been in charge of the district only for a short time, has given evidence of the possession of qualities which will enable him to realise the popular expectation that his administration will be a source of happiness to the people of this country.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

35. A correspondent of the same paper says that a post office should be established at Salipore, in the Basirhat sub-division, and that it should be placed under the charge of the local school-master. The Postmaster-General has already been asked to establish a post office in the village.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

36. The same paper has a letter from Ichhapur, whose writer says that he has been asked by the zemindars, talukdars, and other well-to-do people of that place to inform the editor of this paper of their hearty approval of the proposed adoption of Baboo Banbiharis' son by the Maharani of Burdwan. They have earnestly requested Government to allow the adoption, and they will feel aggrieved if Government disallows it. Before coming to any conclusion in this matter, Government should consult all the opinions which are published in the columns of this paper.

SAHACHAR,
April 20th, 1887.

37. The *Sahachar*, of the 20th April, has heard a rumour to the effect that Sir Steuart Bayley has ordered the withdrawal of the Puri Temple case. It has also heard that the case was instituted by the Collector of Puri without the knowledge and consent of Government. It would be impossible to believe this if it were not that nothing, however incredible, could be impossible during the administration of Sir Rivers Thompson. The Civilian officers of Government have their own way in everything. Sir Steuart should bear this in mind.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
April 21st, 1887.

38. The *Surabhi and Patáká*, of the 21st April, is glad to hear that a military school will be established in India. The Duke of Connaught is said to be the chief promoter of the scheme. The proposed institution, if established, cannot but be of an elementary nature. As the highest military dignity open to an Indian is the post of Subadar or Major, the proposed institution, in order to suit the requirements of the case, must concern itself with a somewhat low standard of teaching. But with the establishment of the school, the aims and aspirations of Indians will go on increasing, and in course of time Indian gentlemen will be candidates for employment in the highest military posts. The Government will thus find itself in much the same difficulty about its military men which it is experiencing in connection with its University men. The enemies of India will not fail to oppose the Duke of Connaught's noble scheme by arguments like this.

DHUMKETU,
April 22nd, 1887.

39. The *Dhumketu*, of the 22nd April, says that it is desirable that the entire report of the Salaries Commission should be published in the *Calcutta Gazette*. Sir Rivers Thompson could not see the necessity of increasing the salaries of the amlah as recommended by the Commission. But if he had no intention of accepting the recommendations of the Commission on this point of vital importance, why did he at all appoint it at so much sacrifice of public money? That the court amlah are more or less given to remunera-

ing themselves by illegal means is simply because the salaries they get are very small. The Commission is also for appointing a special officer—a Deputy Magistrate—to supervise the work of the Court amla. But Sir Rivers did not see the necessity of doing this either.

40. The same paper thanks Sir Steuart Bayley for appointing Baboo Benode Behari Sarkar, Sub-Deputy Collector of Burdwan, as Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the Raniganj sub-division. Sir Steuart has thus opened the door to improvement so long kept closed against Sub-Deputy Collectors.

41. The *Sulabha Samáchar and Kushdaha*, of the 22nd April, asks the Postal authorities to allow their peons to put on a light cotton dress during the hot season. The present dress is really painful to them in the hot weather.

42. The *Bangabási*, of the 23rd April, says that Sir Steuart Bayley has earned the gratitude of the Hindoo community by arresting the further progress of the Puri Temple case. He will endear himself more to the people of this country if he adequately punishes the Collector of Puri, who stands in need of exemplary punishment for his high-handed proceedings. It will not do to simply stop his promotion for one year.

43. The Ambaria correspondent of the same paper complains of the illegal and irregular proceedings of the Income-tax assessors at that place.

44. The Jhapurda correspondent of the same paper says that the outstills recently established at that place are doing much harm. The main road is much used by respectable ladies for bathing purposes, and the outstills on that road might become a source of fear and molestation to them. The Lieutenant-Governor is requested to look to the matter and remove the outstills from the main road.

45. The *Sanjivani*, of the 23rd April, is glad that Sir Steuart Bayley has proposed to cut short his stay at Darjeeling during the hot season. His Honour will be accompanied in his journey to Darjeeling by only one Under-Secretary, all the Secretaries, and some heads of departments. This proposal of Sir Steuart's has given universal satisfaction.

46. The same paper, referring to the Burdwan adoption question, says that Baboo Banbihari's plea that he is governed by the customs of the Punjab, and that the present adoption, though opposed to the Hindoo law, would be in consonance with Punjab customs, is probably intended to be good only for the present case. In a suit brought by him in 1872 against the son of his father, born after his adoption, Baboo Banbihari claimed a fourth part of his father's property as his due under the Mitakshara law. This shows that Baboo Banbihari is governed by the Mitakshara law and not by Punjab customs; for if he had been governed by the customs of the Punjab, he would have claimed one-half of his adoptive father's property.

Now it is well known that Baboo Banbihari instituted that suit against his half-brother at the instigation of Mohatap Chand Bahadur, father of the late Maharaja of Burdwan. Now as the old Maharaja knew perfectly well whether his family was governed by the customs of the Punjab or not, the fact that he advised Banbihari to claim the property of his adoptive father under the Mitakshara law is conclusive proof that the customs of the Punjab have nothing to do with the Raj family of Burdwan.

DHUMKETU.

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SULABH SAMACHAR
& KUSHADHA

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BANGABASI,
April 23rd, 1887.

BANGABASI.

SANJIVAN,
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SANJIVANI.

If it had been otherwise, the Maharaja would have advised Banbihari to claim one-half of his adoptive father's property. That the proposed adoption would be illegal under the Mitakshara law has been admitted by Baboo Satya Kinkara Sen, Government pleader of Burdwan, and a friend and well-wisher of Baboo Banbihari. It is therefore clear that the plea of Punjab customs is an afterthought of Baboo Banbihari. Before granting permission to adopt, Sir Steuart Bayley should consult lawyers.

SANJIVANI,
April 23rd, 1887.

47. The same paper, referring to the Lieutenant-Governor's speech in answer to the address presented to him by a Calcutta deputation, says that His Honour has expressed his willingness to conduct the administration impartially with a view to bring about better relations between Europeans and natives in this country. It is true that impartiality on the part of Government can do much in this direction. But Sir Steuart is certainly much mistaken if he thinks that his countrymen will aid him in this effort. So long as newspapers like the *Pioneer* and the *Englishman* continue to exist, and so long as there is a Calcutta Chamber of Commerce, the establishment of better relations between Europeans and natives must be out of the question. Sir Steuart could hardly have indulged in any hope of receiving the co-operation of his countrymen if he had framed a just estimate of their character. The fact is that the Lieutenant-Governor has judged his countrymen by the elevated standard of his own character. Sir Steuart has said that there has been no famine in Bengal during the last thirteen years; but did His Honour forget all about the famine in Beerbhoom when he made this statement?

Even now the people of Tipperah are suffering from scarcity, and there have already been in that district one or two deaths from starvation. To prevent the occurrence of famine in future, Sir Steuart will do well to adopt the suggestion of Mr. Finucane, who is for appointing in each district an officer well versed in agricultural knowledge, whose duty it will be to look after the improvement of agriculture in his district. The services of Baboo Ambica Charan, of the Cirencester College, should be utilised in this connection. Government will also do well to use for its own purposes all articles which are procurable in this country instead of importing them from England.

It is true that the curtailment of the Provincial allotment under the new Provincial contract will prevent the Lieutenant-Governor from doing many things which he could otherwise have done. But His Honour can, by a careful practice of economy, still do many good things.

The exodus to the hills might, for instance, be done away with with advantage. There are again many things which could be done without money. There construction of the Provincial Legislative Councils on a representative basis is one of such things. His Honour can also establish Local and Union Committees in parts of the country where they are needed. He can also save the people of the country from the disastrous effect of drunkenness by disallowing the establishment of outstills.

DAINIK,
April 24th, 1887.

48. The *Dainik*, of the 24th April, is glad to hear that Sir Steuart Bayley has expressed his intention to withdraw the case against the Rani of Puri. The Lieutenant-Governor is sure to be heartily blessed by the people of Bengal if he carries his intention into effect. His Honour is also requested to release the ex-Raja of Puri, in this connection.

49. The same paper says that the deputation which recently waited on His Honour dwelt on the misunderstanding existing between natives and Europeans in this country, and asked His Honour to remove it. The task, however, is difficult, and can never be properly done so

DAINIK,

Sir Steuart Bayley and the Calcutta deputation.

long as the interests of the two communities continue to clash with each other. But if Government maintains a policy of strict impartiality, race-feeling will do little harm. Peace is sure to be the outcome of a just policy. Anglo-Indians are the only peace-breakers in this country, and the country would be sure to enjoy peace if Anglo-Indians keep quite.

50. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 24th April, says that it is desirable that Sir Steuart Bayley should not only be popular with his own countrymen, but should

Sir Steuart Bayley.

try to win the good opinion of the people confided to his care. Let His Honour establish his title to the good opinion of the people by acts worthy of his exalted office. Belonging to a family, whose members have all along been famous for their devotion to the interest of this country, he will, in all probability, acquit himself honourably of the duties of his present office. He has already done many good acts. His stay in Calcutta during the hot season, his appointment of Mr. Cotton to the Chairmanship of the Calcutta Municipality, his rumoured attendance in the Writers' Buildings to supervise the work of his Secretaries, are all instances to the point. In conclusion the editor of the paper begs Sir Steuart to furnish the vernacular press with timely official information. Copies of the *Calcutta Gazette* should, at any rate, be supplied to the editors of the vernacular press. It is also desirable that Sir Steuart should select mofussil newspapers for special consideration, seeing that those papers, unlike their contemporaries in the metropolis, labour under great disadvantages in the matter of obtaining correct information.

DACCA PRAKASH,
April 24th, 1887.

51. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 24th April, hopes that Government

The Amlah Commission and the serving of notices.

will in future allow summonses, notices, and things of that kind to be served and circulated by post, and cause notices of sales to be published in the local newspapers.

DACCA PRAKASH,
April 24th, 1887.

52. The *Som Prakash*, of the 25th April, approves of the proposal of the Salaries Commission to increase the salaries of the amlah on the ground of a general rise

The Salaries Commission.

of prices. The unwillingness of Government to give effect to this proposal of the Commission is greatly to be deplored. Sir Steuart Bayley should direct his attention to this matter. The Commission deserves thanks for its judicious recommendation.

SOM PRAKASH,
April 25th, 1887.

53. The same paper, referring to Sir Steuart Bayley's speech in answer to the address presented to him by the Calcutta deputation, says that His Honour's

Sir Steuart Bayley's speech.

words have raised expectation about the speedy fulfilment of the pledges contained in the Queen's proclamation. Sir Steuart's unwillingness to increase taxation will no doubt be appreciated by everybody.

SOM PRAKASH,
April 25th, 1887.

54. The *Dainik*, of the 25th April, sees no force in the argument which has been used by Sir Rivers Thompson to reject the recommendation of the Salaries

The Salaries Commission.

Commission for the increase of the salaries of the amlah. It is true that on the principle of demand and supply no increase of the pay of the amlah is necessary. But will Sir Rivers apply the same principle to other cases? Will not many fit men apply for the post of Lieutenant-Governor even if the salary of that post is reduced to Rs. 50,000 a year? And judged by the same principle ought a Civilian Commissioner to get Rs. 3,000 a month; a Civil and Sessions Judge Rs. 2,500 a month; and a Magistrate Rs. 2,200 a month? If the pay of these posts is reduced, good men will not be wanting to fill them up. Why then did not Sir Rivers reduce the salaries of those posts on the principle of demand and supply which he has made use of to refuse any increase of pay to the poor amlah? The chief object which Government has in view in allowing high salaries to its officers is to place

DAINIK,
April 25th, 1887.

them above corruption, and that object can only be attained in regard to the amlah by increasing their pay. It is hoped that Sir Steuart Bayley will reconsider the matter.

DACCA GAZETTE,
April 25th, 1887.

55. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 25th April, hopes that Sir Steuart Bayley will improve the condition of the poor and destitute amlah.

SAMVAD PURNA
CHANDRODAYA,
April 25th, 1887.

56. The *Samvād Purnachandrodaya*, of the 25th April, says that Sir Steuart Bayley will earn the gratitude of the people of Bengal by appointing a Bengali gentleman to the vacant post of Under-Secretary in the Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
April 25th, 1887.

57. The *Navavibhakar Sādhāranī*, of the 25th April, says that enlightened people in the villages should inform Government of the harm which is being done by the outstill system and the police of such mischievous instances of the violation of the outstill law as the sale of liquor to boys, the distillation of liquor oftener than is allowed by the law, and the use of noxious materials in distillation. If any corrupt police officer winks at such violations of the law, educated villagers should take active steps to bring him round. Instead of engaging in the agitation of political questions of a vague and impracticable kind, every man in the country should do his best to perform such work as is here mentioned, and without doing which it will be impossible for him or indeed anybody, not excepting the Government, to promote the welfare of his village.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR
April 26th, 1887.

58. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 26th April, observes that the report on the Administration of Bengal contains no expression of opinion on the condition of the 7 crores of the population of that country, on their state of mind, on their present wants, on their hopes and aspirations, and on their progress or decline. No proposal having reference to the permanent welfare of the people is to be found in the report. Nor does the report contain any reference to those wants of the people, which require the urgent attention of the Government, or to those works and undertakings which require its co-operation.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

BHARATBASĪ,
April 16th, 1887.

59. The *Bhāratbāsī*, of the 16th April, condemns the Hon'ble Mr. Irving's minute on the Calcutta Municipal Bill. Mr. Irving ought to know that the object of the introduction of the elective system in municipalities will be fulfilled if educated men are allowed to exercise the right of election or are elected as members of Municipal Boards. It is hoped that their superior culture will enable them to advance public interest in a generous and self-sacrificing spirit.

The idea of establishing and maintaining lower primary pathsalas in Calcutta out of municipal funds does not commend itself to Mr. Irving. He says that it is not the duty of a municipality to diffuse education; but the opinion that a municipality and the Government or the State should not address themselves to the promotion of the same objects does not come with a good grace from a legislator. It is the duty of both to promote education. It is an established fact that education serves to promote the interests of good government. The inmates of jails are mostly uneducated men. The uneducated poorer classes suffer most from diseases, and it is amongst them that mortality is both brisk and heavy. If the lower classes of people acquire improved ideas of sanitation and regulate their living upon

sanitary principles, the burden and the difficulty of municipal work in this country will decrease. It should also be borne in mind that the health of the higher and well-to-do classes depends in a great measure upon the health of the poorer classes. It is, therefore, the interest of the higher classes of the Calcutta population that its lower classes should be thoroughly instructed in sanitary science, so that by observing sanitary laws in their everyday life they may be the means of raising the general sanitary condition of the metropolis. Elementary schools for teaching sanitary science may therefore be legitimately maintained by the Calcutta Municipality; and Mr. Irving, who has been influenced by a narrow selfishness into opposing the proposed provision of the new Municipal Bill, would have done better if he had thought more deeply and in a more enlightened spirit on this subject.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

60. The *Bangabási*, of the 23rd April, says that the present importance of the state of Hyderabad is due to the able administration of the late Sir Salar Jung, the father of the present Prime Minister. The resignation of the Prime Minister does not therefore bode well for that State.

BANGABASI,
April 23rd, 1887.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND THE CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

61. The *Paridarshak*, of the 16th April, says that much scarcity is being felt in Sylhet on account of a failure of the crops during the last two years. The exaction of fees for Land Registration cases and the rigour of taxation are making matters worse. The writer should not wonder if famine were shortly to appear in Sylhet.

PARIDARSHAK,
April 16th, 1887.

62. The *Rungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 21st April, reports an outbreak of cholera in different places in Rungpore. Several deaths have occurred at Gopalroy, a village near Kakina.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
April 21st, 1887.

63. A correspondent of the *Samaya*, of the 22nd April, referring to the condition of the people in the district of Midnapore, says that fires are occurring almost every day in pergunnah Bugri. The mischief committed by these fires is aggravated by scarcity of water. A portion of the annual proceeds of the Public Works Cess Fund should be spent in excavating tanks in the villages belonging to the pergunnah. Government intends to do something for the improvement of agriculture in Bengal in commemoration of the Jubilee, and as the first instalment of that improvement, it ought to excavate tanks in the villages now suffering from scarcity of water. In the village of Garbeta people have been subjected to very great inconvenience on account of the destruction of their houses by fire, and the servants of the Indigo Planting Company—Watson and Company—have, by their oppression, managed to increase their misery. Ryots are being compelled by force to sell indigo lands.

SAMAYA,
April 22nd, 1887.

64. The *Sanjivani*, of the 23rd April, notices a correspondent's letter describing a hailstorm in the sub-division of Kushtea, which has done great damage to the habitations of the poor. The inconvenience to which the poor of the place have in consequence been subjected is very great.

SANJIVANI,
April 23rd, 1887.

BANGABASI,
April 23rd, 1887.

65. The *Bangabási*, of the 23rd April, observes that the condition of the people of Tipperah ought to be enquired into by a competent Government officer, and that arrangements should be made to open relief works if the people be really in distress.

DACCA GAZETTE,
April 25th, 1887.

66. The *Dacca Gazette*, of the 25th April, says that the late inundations have entirely destroyed the crops in Tipperah; and as there was only an eight-anna crop the year before, the cultivators suffered greatly. Some of them are living on only one meal a day, and others get nothing to eat. The writer requests the Deputy Magistrate of Brahmanbaria to look to the matter carefully and to bring the wretched condition of the people to the notice of Government. Government, on its part, should place no reliance on what sycophants and place-hunters say on matters so serious as this.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
April 21st, 1887.

67. The *Rungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 21st April, reports the ravages of tigers at Salbari, a village two miles from Bowrar in Rungpore.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
April 21st, 1887.

68. The *Surabhi and Patáká*, of the 21st April, approves of Sir Steuart Bayley's statement that it lies with the leaders of the different sections of the people in this country to remove the misunderstanding which exists between them. Nothing which Government could do in this matter would, for its efficacy, compare with what might be done by the leaders of society maintaining towards each other an attitude of respect, toleration, and forbearance. Taunt and sarcasm and invective have never established peace in society.

SURABHI & PATAKA.

69. The same paper is at a loss for reasons that might justify the erection of a statue of Sir Ashley Eden. The late Kristo Das Pal who, for some special reasons of his own, was much attached to Sir Ashley, is responsible for this statue of his. To Kristo Das and the zemindars who acknowledged his leadership belongs the infamy of this transaction. Sir Steuart Bayley said on the occasion of the unveiling of the statue that an abler Governor than Sir Ashley never came to this country. This may be true; but what if the able Governor never used his ability for the purpose of promoting the welfare of his subjects? Sir Ashley laid the axe at the root of the independence of the vernacular press. He established the outstill system, and it was he who closed the door of Government employment in the province of Behar against Bengalis. Verily these are good and valid reasons for honouring Sir Ashley with a statue!

SAMAYA,
April 22nd, 1887.

70. The *Samaya*, of the 22nd April, says that it has no objection to the erection of a statue of Sir Rivers Thompson, but that it is decidedly opposed to the placing of that statue in Calcutta. The pedestal of the statue ought to bear this inscription:—"A more incompetent Governor than Sir Rivers Thompson never occupied the throne of Bengal."

SANJIVANI,
April 23rd, 1887.

71. The Kumarkhali correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 23rd April, referring to the daily importation by rail into Calcutta of a large number of fowls, says that, huddled as they are in small cages within railway carriages which become hot as fire at this time of the year, the sufferings of these poor animals are simply unspeakable. Is the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals sleeping over its duties? But if the sufferings of

dumb animals cannot excite the sympathy of either the Government or the Railway authorities, they should at any rate consult the feelings of those human passengers whose sensibility is painfully and acutely wounded by seeing so much voiceless agony in neighbouring carriages.

URIYA PAPERS.

72. The *Samvād Bāhikā*, of the 7th April, approves of the action of Mr. Tute in giving prizes of greater value to the successful girls of primary pathshalas in the Balasore district than had been hitherto given.

Pathshala prizes in Balasore.

SAMVAD BAHIKA.
April 7th, 1887.

73. The *Utkal Dīpikā*, of the 9th April, learns that the salaries of the officers subordinate to the receiver lately appointed to attach the temple of Jagannath are long in arrear, and suggests that steps should be taken to pay them off as soon as possible.

Salaries of receiver's amla.

UTKAL DIIPIKA,
April 9th, 1887.

74. The same paper advises the people of Orissa to petition the Indian Government and the British Parliament for pardoning the late Raja of Puri, who is now undergoing penal servitude in the Andamans.

The ex-Rajah of Puri.

UTKAL DIIPIKA.

75. An English correspondent of this paper, calling himself a *Lunatic*, quotes the following paragraphs from certain secret records with the view of showing that in instituting the Temple case Government was actuated by certain motives which the public do not know of:—

Certain extracts from secret Government records bearing upon the Temple case.

UTKAL DIIPIKA.

"Policy indeed would suggest that the remembrance of the former rank and power of his family should, as much as possible, be obliterated from the minds of himself and of all the natives of the districts. At least that no positive measures should be taken tending to keep alive the impression of his high rank and political consequence, and that it should be made an object to confine, as far as practicable, the veneration felt by natives towards the person of the descendant of their ancient sovereigns, to his office and situation as Superintendent of the peculiarly sacred and celebrated temple of Jagannath.

"As far as the question of strict right is concerned, Government has determined that the Raja cannot claim under any regulation or order to engage on any more favourable terms than as a zemindar at a fixed and comparatively easy jumma with reference to the ordinary principles of assessment. It may be added that the family, it is believed, have long ceased to expect that they will ever be re-admitted to the possession of the estate on such highly-favoured terms as alone would render it worth their having. The arrangement suggested for their support and maintenance in the letter regarding Lembai is sufficiently liberal, and combined with the pecuniary and other advantages resulting from the superintendency of the temple must entirely preclude all just ground of complaint.

"I am indeed to suggest that this object may be attained without putting the * * * * * in possession of Khorda, relinquishing to him the zemindar's allowance or malikana of 35 per cent. on the rental which under the orders of the * * * * * was found as the minimum rate for the zemindars of these provinces and resuming per contra the personal allowance of * * * * * rupees and the donation to the temple. The Rajah therefore should not demur to an arrangement by which he would be a considerable gainer.

"But it is to be borne in mind that he has been entirely uncontrolled, and has been led to regard the temple as a sort of private property.

"An act of legislation, the repeal of an Act cannot affect the rights and interests of the Raja to the management of the temple."

NAVASAMVAD,
April 14th, 1887.

76. The *Navasamvād*, of the 14th April, praises Baboo Ramakshaya Chatterji, a Deputy Magistrate of Cuttack, for extinguishing a large fire which broke out in that town and consumed many houses.

NAVASAMVAD.

77. The same paper regrets to learn that the Sub-Inspectorship of Schools and some other posts in the Khondmahals will be abolished for want of funds. It thinks, however, that the School Sub-Inspectorship should be retained, because the inspection of schools situated in that backward part of the Orissa Gurjats will otherwise be very much neglected.

78. All the papers of Orissa speak approvingly of the introduction of Local and District Boards into that province, and feel confident that the system will prove successful.

SANSKARAKA.
April 14th, 1887.

79. The *Sanskāraka*, of the 14th April, regrets to learn that the Enquiries about the stealing of results of the investigation held on the subject of the stealing of question papers intended for the last Middle Vernacular and Minor Scholarship Examinations have not yet been made public, and states it that has reason to suspect that the investigation was not successful. It asks why the case was not made over to the police and why the offenders were not brought to justice? It therefore requests Mr. Henry, the District Magistrate, to call for the records of the case.

SANSKARAKA,

The Salaries Commission.

80. The same paper writes as follows in regard to the report of the Salaries Commission :—

"The amlah and ministerial officers were waiting impatiently for an expression of the views of Government on the subject of their prospects and promotion. Naturally very high hopes were excited in their minds by the wording of the resolution which brought the Salaries Commission into existence; and they must now be grievously disappointed to find that the Government, though believing that the cost of living has appreciably increased since 1868, are not prepared to increase their allowances on that account. There is one point in the review which must not be overlooked by our young men. Government apparently thinks that so long as competent men are available under the existing rates of salaries and allowances, so long there is no necessity for raising the same. Our young men are to blame for this. They flock in numbers into Government service without trying other honourable means of subsistence, such as the industrial arts and the trades, and they thereby reduce the market value of intellectual power and ability.

"There is one good suggestion in the report of the Commission which we value highly. We mean the proposal to circulate notices by registered letters through the post offices. At present the number of post offices is larger than the number of police stations in India, and they are so scattered over the country as to constitute the agency for conveying the wishes of Government to the public and *vice versa*. We remember instances of zemindaris being put up to auction for arrears of Road and Public Works cesses without the owners knowing anything about the matter. The large army of peons and notice-bearers who crowd every Indian Court may be abolished, and the saving thus effected may be utilized in rewarding the services of Branch and Sub-Postmasters, upon whom shall devolve the discharge of onerous and responsible duties in connection therewith. We

hope this suggestion of the Commission will engage the immediate attention of the Board of Revenue and the Local Government.

"The Commission have recommended several other useful reforms which, we hope, will engage the attention of the Board of Revenue. Most of them being of a technical and departmental nature need not be noticed here. No doubt it will be very convenient to have English-knowing amlah and ministerial officers to do both the English and the vernacular work of the Courts. But this arrangement, in order to be popular and useful, should be effected gradually, and, at the beginning, only in the advanced districts of Bengal Proper. Orissa and Behar have special wants and requirements, and they therefore cannot come under the general rule. It must, however, be observed that there are certain *political* departments of Government where it will be simply dangerous to employ English-knowing people, who are generally found to be crafty and cunning. In fact there are certain secret transactions of Government which can be very efficiently done by purely vernacular-knowing gentlemen, to whom the ignorance of English will, in many cases, prove a blessing.

"The Commission further propose to select competent men for the ministerial offices in future by means of competitive examinations to be held at Calcutta. There are certain posts requiring special aptitude, which must be filled by a wise system of nomination. The remaining posts may be offered as rewards to those who shall succeed in a general competitive examination, which should be provincial in its character. As for Orissa we should like to have a separate examination in Cuttack for filling ministerial posts in Orissa. A similar examination held at Patna will no doubt meet the requirements of Beharis. The different divisions of Bengal Proper may have their examination at Calcutta.

"We cannot but appreciate the wise and independent spirit which Baboo Durgagati Banerjee has displayed in his criticisms. Mr. Grimley deserves special thanks for the trouble he took to visit certain public offices in England with the view of ascertaining the principles on which the administration of particular departments is carried on in the United Kingdom."

81. Some of the students of the Ravenshaw Collegiate School repudiate in the columns of this paper the charges of immorality which were brought against them in the *Navasamvād* newspaper, and attempt to defend their Headmaster from the attacks of that journal. The *Navasamvād* has, in its last issue, expressed regret for its careless and sweeping remarks.

SANSKARAKA,
April 14th, 1887.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 30th April 1887.

